CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION
(Classification)

File DC/R

DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE
793.00/5-1952

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : AMEMBASSY, TAIPEI.

DESP. NO. 536 — May 19, 1952.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

REF :

SUBJECT: Convocation of Kuomintang National Congress.

OFFICE OF CHINESE AFFAIRS
MAY 23 1952
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DATE/DC/MR 6/2/52
REVIEWED BY Couch
PRIORITY DATE 5/19/52
A13
For Dept. Use Only
TS AUTH. REASON(S) C
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐ E 31
ASSIGNED RELEASABLE ☐ C
DENIED D
FOI EXEMPT A FE

C INFO
T DCR
I OLI
O S/S
N G
I ne
N
F
O

Various considerations involved in the convocation of a national congress of the Kuomintang are mentioned in the enclosed memorandum on this subject. The memorandum has been prepared by a Chinese member of the Embassy's staff, who is considered to be well-informed on the matter which he has discussed.

MEMORANDUM

Kuomintang National Congress

The Kuomintang held its last (the sixth) National Congress on May 16, 1945. During the past seven years the KMT and the San Min Chu I Youth Corps were amalgamated and the KMT has carried out since July 1950 a thorough reform under a special program laid down by its Tsung Ts'ai, Generalissimo CHIANG Kai-shek. Under the program, the reform work should be considered completed as soon as Party offices of the various levels in the country and abroad were established.

The various district (Hsien) KMT offices in Formosa were established last summer, followed by those attached to various vocational organizations such as railway, seamen, and other unions. The Taiwan Provincial KMT Headquarters was inaugurated in November 1951 with the election of a committee headed by NI Wen-ya (倪文亞). An overseas KMT office in the Philippines was established toward the end of April this year.

With the establishment of these KMT branches, a national congress should be convened for the organization of a formal Central KMT Headquarters. According to unofficial statistics, members who have newly joined and re-registered number 130,000 in Free China, 110,000 in the armed forces, over 10,000 directly under the Central Reform Committee and approximately 20,000 abroad.

The convocation of a national congress at this time on [illegible] has met with about equal support and opposition within the rank and file of the KMT. Those who are in favor of the meeting maintain:

(1) There should be a time limit for KMT reform, which should not be carried on forever. Reform work should now be

RWRinden:jp
REPORTER(S)

CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION

PREPARATION DATE May 14 1952

FILED

ACTION COPY – DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The action office must return this permanent record copy to DC/R files with an endorsement of action taken.

This Document Has Been Returned To DC/R Central Files
793.00/5-1952

Central File
HH

considered completed since Party offices of various levels in the country and abroad have been established and Party Committees have been elected. A Central KMT Committee should be immediately elected and a Central KMT Headquarters established.

(2) The existing Central Reform Committee, composed of members named by the Tsung Ts'ai, is of a temporary nature. Following completion of the reform work, a Central KMT Committee, to be elected by members of the Party, should now take charge of the KMT.

Those who are against the convention contend:

(1) The present situation has made the election of representatives of the various provinces and municipalities impossible; hence, a national congress would not be able to represent the whole KMT. It would be particularly inappropriate and unfair to call such a meeting because of the absence of KMT members now working in the underground on the mainland.

(2) The reform work carried out in the past year has not completely and successfully improved and unified the spirit, thoughts, and sentiments of KMT members. In order to avoid possible complications and disputes, it is felt that it would be better to extend the time for reform with the selection of additional members for the Central Reform Committee to be chosen from among more popular and acceptable KMT members.

However, subject to the Director-General's decision, the Seventh KMT National Congress may possibly be held on or about October 10, 1952.

May 16, 1952.

Howard P. Jones
Charge d'Affaires a.i.

WHC